

Time to **Grow Up**

"(v.1) So come on, let's leave the preschool finger-painting exercises on Christ and get on with the grand work of art. Grow up in Christ. The basic foundational truths are in place: turning your back on 'salvation by self-help' (v.2) and turning in trust toward God; baptismal instructions; laying on of hands; resurrection of the dead; eternal judgment. (v.3) God helping us, we'll stay true to all that. But there's so much more. Let's get on with it!"

MAJOR GOAL for Christians--> **Growing Up** (v.1-3)

1-**Repentance** from acts that lead to death (Romans 5:12-13)

2-Faith in **God** (Romans 3:28)

3-Instruction about **Baptism** (Romans 6:1-11)

4-**Laying** on of hands (Acts 2)

5-Resurrection of the **dead** (I Cor. 15:12-19)

6-Eternal **judgment** (Romans 2:1-16)

"(v.4) Once people have seen the light, gotten a taste of heaven and been part of the work of the Holy Spirit, (v.5) once they've personally experienced the sheer goodness of God's Word and the powers breaking in on us—(v.6) if then they turn their backs on it, washing their hands of the whole thing, well, they can't start over as if nothing happened. That's impossible. Why, they've re-crucified Jesus! They've repudiated him in public. (v.7) Parched ground that soaks up the rain and then produces an abundance of carrots and corn for its gardener gets God's "Well done!" (v.8) But if it produces weeds and thistles, it's more likely to get cussed out. Fields like that are burned, not harvested."

MAJOR PROBLEM for Christians--> **Falling Away** (v.4-8)

Possibilities: 1-It refers to Christians who actually lose their **salvation**.

2-It is a hypothetical argument to warn **immature** Hebrew Christians.

3-It refers to professing Christians whose apostasy proves that their faith was not genuine—I John 2:19

Friends—the most important issue for us today is not agreement on what this passage ultimately means; it is how we speak to, think about, and love each other during our conversations about this passage that models Christ-like maturity.

LOOKING WITHIN:

- Have I begun to drift dangerously near a point of danger?
- What is needed to keep me in love with Jesus and walking near Him?
- Are there more thorns than fruit being produced by me?
- Am I willing, at this moment, to hear this warning?

"(v.9) I'm sure that won't happen to you, friends. I have better things in mind for you—salvation things. (v.10) God doesn't miss anything. He knows perfectly well all the love you've shown him by helping needy Christians, and that you keep at it. (v.11) And now I want each of you to extend that same intensity toward a full-bodied hope, and keep at it till the finish. (v.12) Don't drag your feet. Be like those who stay the course with committed faith and then get everything promised to them."

Hebrews 6:1-12

Message (Remix)

MAJOR ENCOURAGEMENT for Christians--> (v.9-12)

Reminders:

- "**Friends** " = term of endearment
gentleness
affection
respect

- "**Better Things** "
 - 1-God doesn't **miss** a thing
 - 2-God knows our **perseverance**.
 - 3-Keep growing up in Christ!

LOOKING WITHIN:

- Let's stop making comments about the weaknesses of others.
- Let's focus on the strengths of our brothers and sisters.
- Let's see the powerful work of God in our lives and celebrate!
- Let us never be focused only on ourselves.